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East Germany

COUNTRY

REF ID: A66001

Military Information from Eberswalde

TOPIC

EVALUATION see below

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DATE OF CONTENT 9 to 24 October 1953

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DATE PREPARED

19 November 1953

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REFERENCES

PAGES 3 ENCLOSURES

REMARKS

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1. On 24 October 1953, the Schuetzen Kaserne in Eberswalde was almost occupied to capacity by about 3,500 troops including 100 recruits and a headquarters of about 500 troops. [redacted] the officers' club on 17 October. Bernauer Meer [redacted] was blocked by sentries. On 21 October, troops in the Schuetzen Kaserne filled mattresses and about 30 to 40 soldiers engaged in maintenance duty near the armory. Three radio trucks were parked near the armory. The noise of troops at work was heard from the armory and the garages.

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2. On 24 October, the Artillerie Kaserne was occupied to capacity by about 3,700 troops. On 22 October, a 120-mm mortar entered the eastern section of the installation. About 120 soldiers were seen in the billeting area. The noise of troops at work was heard from the yard and the garages.

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3. On 24 October, the cantonment on Breitscheidt Strasse was occupied by about 500 troops. On 23 October, [redacted] 50 soldiers engaged in maintenance work and about 70 soldiers including 50 recruits did close-order drill in the barracks yard. The shed was being enlarged for the housing of motor vehicles.

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4. At about 9 a.m. on 21 October, a train of about 30 boxcars with about 1,000 troops wearing black-bordered crimson epaulets, and two boxcars with officers wearing red-bordered black epaulets and 4 other boxcars carrying NCOs and EM was seen en route toward Eberswalde from the direction of Bad Freienwalde. At about 4 p.m. on 21 October a train of 18 boxcars carrying about 1,000 troops wearing red-bordered black epaulets drove in the other direction. At about 10 a.m. on 23 October, a train of 23 boxcars with about 900 troops wearing black-bordered crimson epaulets, 22 boxcars with about 850 troops, apparently recruits, wearing red-bordered black epaulets, 6 boxcars with field kitchens and 4 boxcars with escorting personnel drove toward Eberswalde from the direction of Bad Freienwalde. At about 11 a.m. on 24 October, a train of 8 boxcars with about 300 troops wearing black-bordered crimson epaulets was en route in the same direction.

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5. On 21 October, the Schneider Kaserne was occupied by about 3,150 troops including about 140 recruits and a headquarters of about 700 troops.

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On 21 October, about 440 recruits wearing black-bordered crimson epauletts entered the barracks installation, coming from the direction of the railroad station. Soldiers engaged in technical duty in the armory and in the garages. At about 10:30 a.m., rifle reports were heard from the target range east of Tramperscher Lake.

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9. On 21 October, the Artillerie Kaserne was occupied by about 4,000 troops. Fifteen trucks were lined up in the barracks yard, apparently for inspection. About 170 soldiers were seen in the billeting area.


10. On 21 October, 30 trucks were parked in the cantonment on Breitscheidt Strasse. About 100 soldiers were seen in the installation. The new truck shed was nearing completion. On 21 October, the cantonment quartered about 500 troops. 1

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11. At about 9 a.m. on 21 October, 30 boxcars with troops, apparently recruits, wearing black-bordered black epaulets and an undetermined number of boxcars with about 30 officers and NCOs were unloaded at the Eberswalde railroad station. 2 

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
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 Comment. These shipments are believed to have been connected with the personnel exchange movements of the Fourth Gds Mecz Army and the processing center in Bad Freienwalde and carried recruits as well as discharges. The train en route toward Eberswalde on 21 October probably carried recruits who were subsequently unloaded in Eberswalde.

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